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THE WILLIAM PRICE FUND.

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TRINITY CHURCH,

IN THE CITY OF BOSTON.

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EASTER, 1883.

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In Memoriam.

WILLIAM PRICE.

DIED MAY 19th, 1771.

AGED 86 YEARS.

INTRODUCTORY NOTE.

AS the third half century of the existence of Trinity Church, Boston, closes with Easter, 1883, it has seemed proper at this time to gather up for reference and preservation a few historical facts from our annals, especially concerning one of our most liberal benefactors, whose interest began with the birth of the Parish, and whose charitable endowment has been productive of so much good to the Church he loved so well.

It is an interesting fact that two of the "Committee of Subscribers" who, as will be seen on a subsequent page, were present at the laying the corner stone of our first building, should have associated their names so indelibly with the history of Trinity Church — THOMAS GREENE, from whose estate came the gift of the Greene

Foundation, and WILLIAM PRICE, who instituted the Price Lectures.

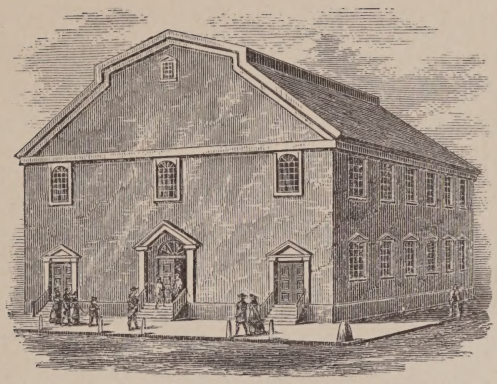
The Greene Foundation was established during the ministry of Rev. William Hooper, and some time before the death of Mr. Price. How much influence this good example had upon that gentleman cannot now be told. The Price Legacy became available about half a century later, and the first of the series of Lectures was preached on Ash Wednesday, 1814, by the Rev. Samuel Cary, Assistant Minister of the King's Chapel, of which the Reverend James Freeman was then Rector.

Brief descriptions of the different Church edifices which have been occupied by Trinity, lists of its Officers at interesting periods in its history, the Will of Mr. Price, and an abstract of the Title Deeds of the estate which forms the foundation of his noble bequest, are here brought together, with the desire to perpetuate in a simple way these recollections of the past, as well as the terms of the gift, and the memory of the giver.

STEPHEN G. DEBLOIS.

EASTER, 1883.

PUBLIC LIBRARY OF THE CITY OF BOSTON



First Edifice of Trinity Church.

Corner Bishop's Lane and Summer Street, Boston.

Formerly 7 Star Lane.

IN 1733 a meeting was held for the purpose of purchasing land on Summer Street for the erec- of an Episcopal Church, and four Trustees were elected as a Committee to build. These were Peter Luce, Thomas Child, William Price, Thomas Greene; Leonard Vassall being chosen as Treasurer of the Committee. From different sources, but principally from the Rev. Dr. Brooks's Historical Sermon soon after the consecration of our present Church edifice, the following facts have been gathered.

The corner stone of the first Church building was laid on the 15th of April, 1734, by the Rev. Roger Price, Rector of King's Chapel, and commissary of the Bishop of London, the Diocesan. The first service was held

just one year from that day. "The Rev. Mr. Roger Price, his Lordship's commissary, preached the first sermon," so say the ancient Records, "from the tenth chapter of the Hebrews and twenty-third verse: — 'Let us hold fast the profession of our faith without wavering,' which sermon was preached before a large number of people, his Excellency, Jonathan Belcher, Esq., being present, and likewise were the subscribers, THOMAS CHILD, WILLIAM PRICE, THOMAS GREENE, Committee."

The first structure was of wood, ninety feet long and sixty broad. It stood on the site of the "Pleiades," or Seven Star Inn, from which Summer Street took its ancient name; and the old pictures of it show an exterior of such exemplary plainness, as would delight the souls of those who grudge the House of God the touch of beauty. "It had neither tower, nor steeple, nor windows in the lower story of the front. There were three entrances* in front, unprotected by porches." Indeed, its exterior is almost exactly what one sees in multitudes of Pennsylvania Quaker Meeting Houses. But the interior, as all bear witness, was bright and pleasant and impressive. Its roof was a great "arch, resting on Corinthian pillars, with handsomely carved and gilded capitals." The front of the organ gallery was elaborately carved and gilded, with corner posts upholding small gilded figures of angels with trumpets in their hands. On the whole, no doubt, a goodly, sober, pleasant Church, where the people worshiped, and the children grew up

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* Our engraving is from Drake's "Landmarks of Boston," published by Roberts Brothers.

with happy love for the Gospel which they heard, and for the place in which they heard it, and their children followed them, generation after generation, for almost a century.

The first minister of Trinity was the Rev. ADDINGTON DAVENPORT. He was inducted "in the manner of a Donative Church." (See Clergyman's Vade Mecum, p. 83, vol. ii.) He had been assistant minister of the King's Chapel, and was chosen Rector of Trinity Church in 1740. He was born in Boston, and was a graduate of Harvard in 1719. On the catalogue his name stands at the head of his class, indicating not rank in scholarship, but his father's social position in the estimation of the times. He received the degree of Master of Arts at Oxford in 1732. He was the brother-in-law of Peter Faneuil, and that distinguished citizen occupied, we find, Pew No. 40 in old Trinity. During his brother-in-law's Rectorship, he gave the Church £100 towards the purchase of a new bell; and about the same time Governor Shirley presented the Communion plate which we still use, and the table cloths, Prayer Books, and other gifts.

EASTER, 1739.

FIRST WARDENS AND VESTRY ON RECORD.

Wardens.

WILLIAM SPEAKMAN. JOSEPH DOWSE.

Vestry.

LAURENCE LUTWYCH. PETER KENWOOD.
CHARLES APTHORP. JOHN ARBUTHNOTT.
WILLIAM COFFIN. BENJAMIN FANEUIL.
JAMES GRIFFIN. RUFUS GREENE.
JOHN MARRETT. PHILIP DUMARESQUE.
HENRY LAUGHTON. THOMAS ASTON.
JOHN HARMACH.

EASTER, 1745.

WARDENS AND VESTRY.

Wardens.

JOSEPH DOWSE. WILLIAM PRICE.*

Vestry.

PETER KENWOOD.	THOMAS ASTON.
JOHN ARBUTHNOTT.	WILLIAM COFFIN.
BENJAMIN FANEUIL.	RUFUS GREENE.
HENRY LAUGHTON.	JOHN BOUTINEAU.
THOMAS GREENE.	JOHN SIMPSON.
THOMAS PERKINS.	JOHN MERRITT.

* His name appears as Warden for the first time this year.

EASTER, 1769.

Year preceding draught of Mr. Price's Will.

Rector.

THE REV. WILLIAM WALTER, S. T. D.

Wardens.

WILLIAM COFFIN. JOHN ROWE.

Vestry.

STEPHEN GREENLEAF.	JOHN ERVING.
RUFUS GREENE.	GILLIAM PHILLIPS.
BENJAMIN GREENE.	JAMES PERKINS.
JOHN GOOCH.	JOHN GREENE.
JAMES BOUTINEAU.	JOHNSON JACKSON.
JONATHAN SIMPSON.	JOHN CUTTER.

PRAYERS FOR THE KING.

ON Thursday, the 18th day of July, 1776, Dr. Parker called the Wardens and Vestry of the Church together, and told them that "he could not with safety perform the service of the Church for the future, as the Continental Congress had declared the American Provinces free and independent States; had absolved them from all allegiance to the British crown, and had dissolved all political connection between them and the realm of England." The news had evidently just arrived from Philadelphia. "He told them that he had been publicly interrupted the Sunday before, when he read the prayers for the King. He was sure that he could not read the service as it then stood, another Sunday. He begged their counsel and advice." The Wardens and Vestry were wise and prudent men. Probably they were also Americans and patriots. They concluded that "it would be more for the interest and cause of Episcopacy, and the least evil of the two, to omit a part of the Liturgy, than to shut up the Church." And they hoped "that, in this sad alternative, it will not be imputed to them as a fault, or construed as a

want of affection for the Liturgy of the Church, if under these circumstances they omit that part of it in which the King is mentioned." So Trinity threw in her lot with the country, and under her wise Rector lived through those troublous times. "To the noble conduct of our deceased friend," said Dr. Gardiner of Dr. Parker, in his funeral sermon, "must doubtless be attributed the preservation of the Episcopal Church in this town." So that we to-day owe him a debt which is easy to trace, and pleasant to acknowledge. — *From Dr. Brooks's Historical Sermon*, 1877.

EASTER, 1776.

Minister.

THE REV. SAMUEL PARKER, S.T.D.

Wardens.

JOHN ROWE. DANIEL HUBBARD.

Vestry.

STEPHEN GREENLEAF. JOHN TIMMINS.
RUFUS GREENE. RICHARD GREENE.
JAMES PERKINS. JOSEPH GREENE.
JOHN CUTLER. BENJAMIN GREENE, JR.
EDWARD DAVIS.

EASTER, 1815.

Year following first Price Lecture.

Rector.

THE REV. JOHN SYLVESTER JOHN GARDINER.

Wardens.

JOSEPH FOSTER. JOSEPH HEAD.

Vestry.

STEPHEN HIGGINSON.	GARDINER GREENE.
JOHN AMORY.	JONATHAN AMORY, JR.
DAVID SEARS.	THOMAS PERKINS.
SAMUEL DUNN.	GEORGE DEBLOIS.
WILLIAM TUDOR.	JAMES LLOYD.
RICHARD GREENE.	THOMAS L. WINTHROP.

THE STONE CHURCH IN SUMMER STREET.

THE Proprietors voted, in 1828, to take down the venerable structure dedicated almost a century before, and to build a new one on the same location. This new Church was finally consecrated by Bishop Griswold, on the 11th of November, 1829. It was a noble building in its day. It was one of the first of the Gothic buildings of this country which were built after Church architecture had begun to waken and aspire, and few that followed it equalled its dignity and calm impressiveness. The lighter and more fantastic styles of building sprang up in the city. The timber spires that made believe

that they were stone, leaped up with unnatural levity into the sky; the cheap stone sculpture covered and deformed great, feeble fronts; the reign of imitation came; and in the midst of all of them Trinity stood, in its exterior at least, strong, genuine, solid, with its great rough stones, its broad, bold bands of sculpture, its battlemented tower, like a great castle of the truth,—grim, no doubt, and profoundly serious, but yet able to win from those who worshiped there for years, an affectionate confidence, and even a tender, yearning love.

EASTER, 1829,

When Summer Street Church was Consecrated.

Rector.

THE REV. JOHN SYLVESTER JOHN GARDINER.

Wardens.

GEORGE BRINLEY. STEPHEN DEBLOIS.

Vestry.

GARDINER GREENE. HENRY HUBBARD.
THOMAS L. WINTHROP. WILLIAM DEHON.
JOSEPH HEAD. JOSEPH HEAD, JR.
THOMAS PERKINS. WILLIAM D. SOHIER.
JOHN HUBBARD. SAMUEL H. PARKER.
JOHN T. APTHORP. JOSEPH TILDEN.
EDWARD H. ROBBINS, JR.

AFTER A CENTURY.

EASTER, 1834.

A CENTURY had now elapsed since the corner stone of the old Church had been laid. The Rev. Mr. Foote, in his excellent Annals of King's Chapel, relates that two corner stones were deposited, one of Connecticut freestone, the other of common slate, with the inscriptions

TRINITY CHURCH.

This corner stone was laid by the Rev. Mr. Commissary Price

April ye 15th 1734

and

SEMPITERNO TRI-UNI-DEO GLORIA

Looking back to those early days, we find the Building Committee meeting from week to week "at Mr. William Patten's at the Golden Ball," to discuss the various matters relating to their new edifice; consulting with John Gold-

smith, the mason who dug the cellar, built the walls and the "foundations to place the Pillows on;" with John Indicott, the carpenter who contracted to build the frame and raise it; with Hugh MacDaniel, (a ropemaker,) who desired to supply the lime, and "stay for his money till the Pews are sold and money risen from the sale," and furthermore give twenty pounds to aid the new enterprise; determining matters of detail such as the number of doors and windows, and even of panes of glass which should be used: desiring that everything about their work should be done not only thoroughly and well, but decently and in order.

Among other items of interest worth preserving in this connection, there are a few lines on the Record as follows: "It must not be forgotten that Mr. Willm Griffith, late of Boston, deceased, did before his Death give unto this Church Twenty-three Pair of Pewdore Hinges."

Before parting with this Committee and their doings, we would remember their devotion to the cause they had in hand, their united feeling, and their love of peace, all of which can easily be traced by one who scans the ancient records. In August, 1735, their work was nearly done. On the 4th of that month the carpenters and masons were directed, as we learn from the Record, (from which our account is compiled,) to "Clear everything out of the Church, to pull down the old house and lime Shed that are before the Church as quick as Possable;" a "Pulpit, a Reading Desk and a Desk for the Clerk" were ordered to be erected, and "as Many Ruff Benches as shall be Convenient" provided for the opening services, which were appointed for Friday, the 15th of the same month. The

Wardens of the "King's Chapple" were asked "to lend their Books and Cushings," "which they readily consented to," and a dinner was provided at Mr. Samuel Wethered's, at "the Bunch of Grapes,"—a modest one it must have been, costing only twenty pounds in the depreciated currency of the day. Mr. Commissary Price, then the Rector of King's Chapel, was invited to preach the sermon, the Rev. Doct. Thos. Harward,* was desired to read Prayers, and the other invited guests included "His Excellency the Governour; the Honourable the Lieut. Governour, the Captain of his Majesty's Ship Scarborough, all the Episcopall ministers that shall be in town that day, and all the other Gentlemen that are in town that has given or lent money to Trinity Church, and the three Head Carpenters." The haste with which these final arrangements were made, reminds us of some of the circumstances attending the completion of our present edifice.

A copy of the Invitation, signed by Thos. Greene, is still preserved. The Rev. Roger Price took for his text the verse—deeply significant to a body which could hope for so little sympathy in the community where they resided—"Let us hold fast the profession of our faith without wavering." Hebrews x. 23. "The sermon was preached before a large number of people, his Excellency John Belcher, Esq., being present," says the old Record.

Shortly after, a letter was written, (Nov. 27, 1735) to the Rev. Arthur Browne, of Providence, informing him that

* Rev. Thomas Harward was the Assistant Minister at King's Chapel: interesting accounts of his labors and character will be found in Foote's Annals, Vol. I.

the Parish would be glad to have him for their minister, "provided he was to leave his present parish," and for his support they would be willing to pay a salary equal to that received by his Lordship's Commissary, the Rev. Roger Price; but for reasons which do not appear on the Record, he did not accept, and the Rev. Addington Davenport became their first Rector in 1740, as has already been mentioned.

Commissary Price and his assistant appear to have officiated alternately, from Oct. 16, 1735, about four years. In June, 1739, the Wardens of Trinity requested him to administer the Holy Communion on Trinity Sunday, but he declined, and they then invited Mr. Davenport to officiate, which the following extract from the Records shows he consented to do.

"June 17, 1739, being TRINITY SUNDAY, the Holy Sacrament of the Lord's Supper was first administered in Trinity Church by the Rev. Mr. Addington Davenport; the Rev. Mr. Sam'l Seabury of New London assisted:—about forty communicants."

The correspondence between the Wardens and Mr. Commissary Price, relative to this matter, will be found in "Foote's Annals of King's Chapel," p. 489 *et seq.*, taken from our records, and need not be mentioned further here. It seems to have left some feeling on both sides, which led Mr. Price to decline to officiate further at Trinity, and perhaps hastened the acceptance of the invitation to Mr. Davenport, which had been in some form given to him about eighteen months before.

Mr. Price was an earnest and laborious minister, with, however, a somewhat hasty temper and a high sense of his powers and prerogatives as the Commissary of the Bishop of London, which, not long before, had led him into some troubles with his own Parish, and induced him to resign his Rectorship. He sailed for England, but becalmed off Nantasket, returned to Boston for the Sunday. Tradition says that he attended divine service at Trinity, and there met for the first time the lady who afterward became his wife. This circumstance, or a sober second thought, led him to recall his resignation, which, upon his surrendering some of his former privileges, his people permitted.

Turning now to Easter, 1834, we find on our Record a Vote expressing the regret of the Wardens and Vestry at the retirement of the Hon. Thomas L. Winthrop from their number, on account of ill health, and their thanks for the devoted service he had rendered to the Parish, "his constant attachment to the Church, and his liberal contributions to its prosperity."

EASTER, 1834.

Rector.

THE REV. JONATHAN M. WAINWRIGHT, S.T.D., J.C.D.

Wardens.

JOSEPH TILDEN. GEORGE M. DEXTER.

Vestry.

GEORGE BRINLEY. JOSEPH ROWE.
SAM'L H. PARKER. HENRY HUBBARD.
EDWARD H. ROBBINS. JOSEPH HEAD.
CHARLES R. CODMAN. J. L. CUNNINGHAM.
FREDERIC TUDOR. ROB'T C. WINTHROP.
WILLIAM H. GARDINER. JOSEPH HEAD, JR.
WILLIAM H. PRESCOTT.

THE PRESENT CHURCH.

DECEMBER 5, 1870, the Proprietors held a meeting to consider the expediency of removing the Church from Summer Street. The necessary legal steps were taken and permission granted for removal by the Legislature and the Act accepted in May, 1871. The land where the present edifice stands was purchased in the following winter.

March 6, 1872, the Building Committee was created, consisting of George M. Dexter, Charles Henry Parker, Robert C. Winthrop, Martin Brimmer, Charles R. Codman, John C. Ropes, John G. Cushing, Charles J. Morrill, Robert Treat Paine, Jr., Stephen G. Deblois, *Treasurer*, and William P. Blake, *Secretary*, "with power to fill their own vacancies, and with full power to decide on plans and materials, and to make contracts to such an amount as the Vestry may determine, for the erection of a new Church."

March 11, 1872, the first Building Committee Meeting was held at the office of Mr. Dexter, No. 68 State Street, and it was voted to notify Rev. Phillips Brooks of all

meetings, and that the Committee will be happy to receive any suggestions from him.

On the morning of Sunday, November 10, 1872, the old Church in Summer Street was destroyed in the great fire; and the congregation driven from its ancient home, to find temporary and inconvenient shelter in Huntington Hall, in the Institute of Technology, which was hospitably offered to our needs.

April 15, 1873, an Executive Committee was appointed, consisting of Messrs. C. H. Parker, C. W. Galloupe, (chosen a member of the Building Committee on April 4th,) and R. T. Paine, Jr., and on June 20th this Executive Committee was given full powers to prosecute with all despatch the erection of the new Church.

It is of interest to note the fact that a contract was made in March, 1873, to take down and remove the granite in the walls of the old Church to our new site, and one of the beautiful carved stones from the facade of the former structure was selected and placed in the cloister wall, as a precious memorial of our solid old granite Church.

The Chapel was first occupied by the children for the Sunday School on Sunday, November 29, 1874, and on the following Saturday evening for the first lecture.

The Corner Stone of the Church was laid on Thursday, May 20, 1875, by the Rev. Mr. Brooks, with the appropriate ceremony, but in the simplest and quietest manner. The Building Committee and Vestry were present.

The last stone of the tower was laid Saturday, July 8, 1876, and on July 27 the tower was boarded in.

November 1, the last crocket was put on the tower, and the tower roof was done.

January 27, 1877, the day of Consecration was fixed for February 9, the last day before Lent, feasible to have. In the morning of February 1, the work of taking down the great tower staging began, and on Saturday, February 3, at 9 A. M., the last of the great timbers of this staging was got safely down. Only five days remained before the Consecration, but the work of cleaning, finishing the floor, putting up the pews, laying the carpets, and completing the organ, all went on with great rapidity and success, and on Thursday night, February 8, everything was done, and the Church was ready for its Consecration.

By the liberality of our people, the Parish was able to proclaim itself free from debt, and to present its magnificent Church to be consecrated to God. Long may it stand, the offering of a strong and united people, inspired and led by an exalted minister, a monument to the glory of God.

EASTER, 1860.

THE Wardens and Vestry chosen at the Easter Meeting in 1860, were called upon to consider various questions of much importance in reference to the Price Estate. That Trinity Church was favored with the services of such excellent men as then directed her affairs is certainly a matter of thankfulness and should be put on record.

Wardens.

SAML. H. PARKER. GEORGE M. DEXTER.

Vestrymen.

ROBT. C. WINTHROP. JOHN CLARK.
BENJ. P. RICHARDSON. JOHN LEE, Jr.
CHARLES HENSHAW. CHARLES HENRY PARKER.
BENJAMIN C. CLARK, THOMAS E. CHICKERING.
JOSEPH M. WIGHTMAN. EDWARD BLAKE.
THOMAS C. AMORY, Jr.

GEORGE M. DEXTER.

THE following is an extract from the Records of the Wardens and Vestry, at their Meeting, Nov. 28, 1872, when Resolutions were adopted with reference to the decease of the Senior Warden, George Minot Dexter, submitted by the Hon. Robert C. Winthrop.

"That we have received with deep sorrow, the announcement of the death of our respected associate, George M. Dexter, Esq., whose important and faithful services to our Church for more than forty years, as a Member, a Vestryman, and for a long time past, as Senior Warden, had won for him our warmest regard and affection.

"That we shall ever cherish the memory of our lamented friend as a man of eminent purity and piety; of the most obliging and generous disposition; always ready and always active in good works; disinterested and self-sacrificing; a Christian gentleman, whose courtesy and kindness had endeared him to all with whom he was associated, and entitled him to be inscribed among the best friends and benefactors of our Church."

The Resolutions of the Wardens and Vestry were adopted by the Proprietors at their meeting, Easter Monday following.

EASTER, 1882.

The Rev. PHILLIPS BROOKS, S. T. D.

CHARLES HENRY PARKER. CHARLES R. CODMAN.

Clerk and Treasurer.

STEPHEN G. DEBLOIS.

ROBERT C. WINTHROP.
JOHN BROOKS FENNO.
THOMAS C. AMORY.
JOHN C. ROPES.
STEPHEN G. DEBLOIS.
CHARLES J. MORRILL.
BENJAMIN F. NOURSE.
WILLIAM S. EATON.
EDWARD D. PETERS.
ROBERT T. PAINE, Jr.
WILLIAM AMORY, Jr.
SAMUEL ELIOT.
ROBERT M. CUSHING.

RECTORS OF THE PARISH.

RECTORS.

TRINITY has been blessed with a line of earnest and faithful men for its Rectors. In Dr. Brooks's Historical Sermon, preached the Sunday after the consecration of the present edifice, he has, with a few graphic touches, placed them, one after another, before us. The following list contains their names and terms of service, and a few data concerning them, gathered from various sources, with the briefest allusion to some incidents in the history of the Church and Parish, which, it is thought, will be of interest to the readers of this volume :—

THE REV. ADDINGTON DAVENPORT. 1740–1746.

He was Minister at Scituate, 1732–7. Assistant at King's Chapel, April 15, 1737 to May, 1740. While there he was invited, Dec. 6,*

* The Records show the Committee waited on him Dec. 6, and reported their action to a meeting held on the 13th, at Mr. PRICE'S, and that the Proprietors on the following day confirmed their action, and instructed them to write to the Bishop of London, informing him of the foundation of Trinity Church, and of their offer to Mr. Davenport.

1737, to become Minister of Trinity: accepted on certain conditions and subject also to the approval of his Diocesan, Edmund Gibson, then Bishop of London: inducted May 8, 1740: died at London, whither he went in 1744, Sept. 8, 1746. In his will he appointed his "worthy friend, WILLIAM PRICE, Cabinet maker," one of his daughter's guardians.

THE REV. WILLIAM HOOPER. 1747–1767.

He was the first minister of the West Church, Boston. Elected Rector Nov. 9, 1746: sailed to England for Ordination, which he received June 9, 1747, at the hands of Martyn Benson, Bishop of Gloucester, by request of the Bishop of London, returning Aug. 24, 1747: inducted on the Friday following, Aug. 28, 1747: died April 14, 1767. His funeral sermon was preached by his successor, Dr. Walter, who took for his text Rev. xix: 13.

During his absence in England, the Rev. Chas. Brockwell, and the Rev. Henry Caner of King's Chapel, were requested by the Wardens to officiate at Trinity, but the Commissary objecting, there was one Sunday when no service was held; this led the Wardens to write Mr. Price a letter protesting against his conduct; he appears to have reconsidered his action, and thereafter these clergymen officiated until Dr. Hooper returned.

He wrote to the Secretary of "the Venerable Society for the Propagation of the Gospel," that he reached Boston "after a long and dangerous passage, for we were ten weeks from Portsmouth; a Spanish man of war had almost demolished the Warwick, in which I was, and a storm had almost sunk the merchant ship on which I went on board after I left the Warwick. But blessed be God, I arrived safe at last."

In the volume relating to Massachusetts, of "Historical Collections of the American Colonial Church," are several letters of interest concerning the early history of Trinity and its Rectors. By this it appears (page 398), that Mr. Commissary Price* wrote to the Bishop of London, Nov. 22, 1746, that the "Rev. Mr. WOODS, Chaplain to the

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* Mr. Commissary Price seems to have been very much opposed to Mr. Hooper, writing letters to England against him and commending Mr. Woods, which led the Wardens to address the Commissary a letter on the subject, and also one to the authorities in England, protesting against his course. (See Foote's Annals, p. 535.) A few days after writing the Bishop, Mr. Price resigned his charge at King's Chapel and was succeeded by Mr. Henry Caner.

Chester man-of-war, preached for some time in Trinity Church, and behaved himself to the general approbation," just before Dr. Hooper sailed for England. There is also on the following page a long letter from Gov. Shirley about Dr. Hooper, defending him from some criticisms made upon him for conforming to the Church of England, as well as replying to the objections made to his Ordination by Commissary Price, and speaking of him in very complimentary terms.

While he was Rector, (in 1759) a bell, taken at the capture of Quebec, was bought and erected in Trinity Church. In the year 1765 the Clergy at the funeral of Dr. Cutler, of Christ Church, agreed to have an annual convention in Boston, and in June, 1766, the first of these was held. There had been others before—one, somewhat informal perhaps, at King's Chapel in 1726, when the Rev. J. Honeyman preached a sermon which was afterward printed, and another, formally called by Mr. Price, which met at Christ Church, Sept. 20, 1738. when the Rev. Arthur Browne, who had been invited to become the first Minister of Trinity, preached a sermon on the "Excellency of the Christian Religion," which was also printed. That of 1766 was still more important; the Clergy "walked together in their gowns and cassocks, Dr. Caner was chosen Moderator and Secretary, and gave an excellent discourse in King's Chapel," and they were honored with the Governor's company at dinner. The object as stated was "to promote mutual love and harmony amongst ourselves, and to assist each other with advice in difficult cases." In 1767 they made a report to the Secretary of the Venerable Society for the Propagation of the Gospel, on the state of the Church and its missions; the name of Dr. Walter heads the list of signers, which numbers fourteen names. (Hist. Coll. Amer. Col. Church, Massachusetts, page 524.) Similar reports for 1768 and some subsequent years are contained in the same volume.

The Rev. WILLIAM WALTER, S. T. D. 1768–1776.

First Assistant Minister on the Greene Foundation, chosen Oct. 26, 1763, and presented to the Bishop of London for Ordination:* he

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* Sprague's Annals describes very pleasantly his personal appearance, and the volume of Historical Collections mentioned above, p. 506, also contains an interesting and very commendatory letter from the Rev. Thos. Barnard, "an eminent dissenting clergyman" of Salem, concerning Dr. Walter's character, and on p. 510 is a letter from Dr. Hooper to the Archbishop of Canterbury,

appears by the Record to have officiated from Easter, 1764: elected Rector April 4, 1768, accepted in a letter dated April 6, and inducted* April 14, as former Rectors: sailed to Halifax with the Loyalists, when Boston was evacuated by the British forces in 1776: he returned to Boston in 1792, where he became Rector of Christ Church, and died Dec. 5, 1800. Bishop Parker, who was his successor, preached his funeral sermon, some portions of which are printed in Sprague's Annals.

The Rev. SAMUEL PARKER, S. T. D. 1779–1804.

Chosen Assistant Minister on the Greene Foundation Oct. 1773, and presented to Richard Terrick, Bishop of London, by whom he was ordained Deacon Feb. 24, and Priest Feb. 27, 1774: he subscribed as Assistant Minister Nov. 2, 1774, and was appointed Incumbent Minister for one year in 1777, and from year to year till June, 1779, when, "Dr. Walter not having returned," he was chosen Rector: consecrated Bishop Sept. 14, 1804, to succeed the Rt. Rev. Edward

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relative to Mr. Walter and the Greene Foundation. The Rt. Rev. Richard Osbaleston was then Bishop of London, and was quite infirm. We have not ascertained with certainty the exact date of Dr. Walter's Ordination; but as the Rev. Bela Hubbard and the Rev. Abraham Jarvis (who was afterwards Bishop of Connecticut), were fellow passengers with Dr. Walter to England on the same errand, it seems probable that with them he received Deacon's Orders from Rt. Rev. Frederick Keppel, S. T. D., Bishop of Exeter, in the King's Chapel, London, Feb. 5, 1764, and Priest's, from the Rt. Rev. Charles Lyttleton, Bishop of Carlisle, in St. James' Church, Westminster, on the 19th of the same month, and on the 28th was licensed by the Bishop of London to perform his duties in New England.

* The ceremony of induction was one of considerable formality. The Church Wardens and all others present retired from the Church, the Wardens delivering the key at the door to the clergyman to be inducted, who locked himself in, tolled the bell, and then unlocking the door, received the Wardens, Vestry, and others into Church again, who wished him joy upon his having possession. In our Record, however, it appears that Mr. Walter was inducted "in the usual form, in the body of the Church, by the Senior Warden taking him by the hand, a quorum of the Vestry being present, and declaring in the name and behalf of the proprietors (who are the patrons) he did induct him into this Church, investing him with all the privileges and immunities thereof, agreeable to their constitution, and to the rules and conditions to which he had subscribed."

Bass, S. T. D., who was the first Bishop of the Diocese during the latter part of his Rectorship: died Dec. 6, 1804. His successor, Dr. Gardiner, preached his funeral sermon from Hebrews xiii: 8.

The Rev. JOHN S. J. GARDINER, S.T.D. 1805–1830.

Assistant Minister on the Greene Foundation from 1792: elected Rector 1805, and "inducted as Dr. Walter was," April 15: died in England July 29, 1830. His successor, Dr. Doane, "preached a sermon at his death, ... in terms of glowing eulogy, which evidently appealed with confidence to the affection of those who listened, for their full justification."

During his Rectorship (May 29, 1810), the "Eastern Diocese" consisting of the States of Massachusetts, Rhode Island, Vermont and New Hampshire, was established, and the Rt. Rev. Alexander V. Griswold, for many years an attendant at Trinity, was consecrated its Bishop, May 29, 1811. While he was Rector, in 1827, a Sunday School was established, which at Easter, 1828, had a library of 300 books. In the latter year the Parish voted to take down the old building, and erect the "New Stone Church," of which George W. Brimmer, Esq., was the architect, and towards the erection of which Admiral Sir Isaac Coffin, of London, sent five hundred pounds sterling. While the new Church was building, services were held in Boylston Hall.

The Rev. GEO. W. DOANE, S. T. D., LL.D. 1830–1832.

Assistant Minister on the Greene Foundation from 1828: elected Rector Dec. 7, 1830: instituted Easter, April 19, 1831: with his accession to the Rectorship, the "certain conditions" or articles of agreement which had been signed by his predecessors since Mr. Davenport's time, ceased, by vote of the proprietors, to be obligatory on the Rector and Parish: consecrated Bishop of New Jersey Oct. 31, 1832: died April 27, 1859. During his Rectorship the Rev. John Henry Hopkins, Assistant Minister on the Greene Foundation, (chosen Feb. 15, 1831, and served from Sept. 1831, to Oct. 1832,) was elected Bishop of Vermont, and consecrated on the same day with Bishop Doane.

The Rev. J. M. WAINWRIGHT, S.T.D., J.C.D. 1833–1838.

Elected Rector March 10, 1833, while Rector of Grace Church, New York: accepted Oct. 30, and began his duties Nov. 24, 1833: resigned January 13, 1838, to become Assistant Minister of Trinity,

New York: consecrated Provisional Bishop of New York Nov. 10, 1852: died Sept. 21, 1854. The Rev. John L. Watson, S. T. D., was Assistant Minister on the Greene Foundation a part of his Rectorship and the earlier years of his successor's (from 1836 to 1846).

During the interim between Dr. Wainwright's resignation and Bishop Eastburn's accession, the Rev. ALONZO POTTER, S. T. D., of Schenectady, was chosen Rector, May 4, 1840, and the Rev. HENRY J. WHITEHOUSE, of Rochester, N. Y., was chosen April 12, 1841: both of these gentlemen however felt constrained to decline the position.

THE REV. MANTON EASTBURN, S. T. D. 1843–1868.

Elected Rector Oct. 9, 1842: consecrated Bishop of Massachusetts, in Trinity, Dec. 29, 1842, (Assistant to Bishop Griswold,) officiated for the first time as Rector January 1, 1843: resigned June 1, 1868: died Sept. 11, 1872. The Assistant Ministers on the Greene Foundation besides Dr. Watson were the Rev. Thomas March Clark, S.T.D., (1847–51) afterwards Rector of Grace Church, Providence, R. I., consecrated Bishop of Rhode Island Dec. 6, 1854: the Rev. John Cotton Smith, S. T. D., (1852–59) afterwards from 1860 till his death, Jan. 9, 1882, Rector of the Church of the Ascension, New York: the Rev. Alexander G. Mercer, S. T. D., (1860–63) afterwards Rector of Trinity Church, Newport, R. I., died Nov. 3, 1882: and the Rev. Henry C. Potter, S. T. D., (1866–68) now Rector of Grace Church, New York.

During Bishop Eastburn's Rectorship, the beautiful Baptismal Font so well remembered by the older members of the Parish, was presented to Trinity by Charles R. Codman, Esq.

THE REV. PHILLIPS BROOKS, S. T. D. 1869– .

During his Rectorship the present edifice has been erected. The Rt. Rev. Benjamin H. Paddock, S.T.D., has been consecrated Bishop (Sept. 17, 1873). The present Assistant Ministers on the Greene Foundation are the Rev. Frederick B. Allen, in the Parish Church, and the Rev. Reuben Kidner, in charge of the Chapel of the Evangelists.

The Rev. Charles C. Tiffany, the Rev. Charles H. Babcock, the Rev. Leverett Bradley, and the Rev. Bryan B. Killikelly, have also filled positions on the same Foundation, for longer or shorter periods, in the Parish Church, or some of its Missions, as Assistant Ministers to the Rev. Dr. Brooks.

THE

WILL OF WILLIAM PRICE.

THE

WILL OF WILLIAM PRICE.

In the Name of God Amen.

I WILLIAM PRICE of Boston in the County of Suffolk & province of Massachusetts Bay in New England Merchant, through the Goodness of Almighty God, being of a sound and disposing mind and memory, and being mindful of the incertainty of human life and of my advanced age, do make and ordain this writing to be my last Will and Testament, in manner following, that is to say.—

IMPRIMIS, I most humbly commit my immortal Soul into the hands of my great Creator, which I most earnestly beseech him to receive, not

relying on any merits of my own, for I sincerely and with humble sorrow confess my many and great Transgressions against his divine Laws, but only thro' the Atonement and satisfaction made for lost mankind by his ever blessed son Jesus Christ, and through whose Merits and Mediation alone, I ask humbly for the pardon of all my Sins, hoping for a joyful Resurrection at the next personal appearance of my Lord and Savior Jesus Christ the only Son of God. As to my body I order it to be decently interred by my Executrix herein after named within my Tomb under Trinity Church which I built for the interment of myself, my dear wife and two nieces Sarah and Margaret Creese, and my will is that no other bodys at any time be buried in said Tomb, and I order that my Executrix herein after named cause my body to be carried into Trinity Church and the burial service according to the Church of England to be performed, and desire the favor of the Revd Doctor Henry Caner if living, and able, and in case he is not living or able then the Rev^{d} Mr Walter to preach a sermon in said Trinity Church at my funeral from this Text vizt: Deuteronomy 32 Chap. verses 39 & 40.—for which good service of

preaching said Sermon I give to him that shall perform the same Two pounds sterling to be paid by my said Executrix wholly out of my personal Estate within three days at least after the same is preached. This Sermon I propose particularly for the good and Instruction of all such of my friends & acquaintance as shall attend my funeral and with a general view and desire that all present may thereby receive a benefit by being solemnly reminded how absolutely certain and unavoidable Death is, and not with a view of any thing being said of me, which I desire may be avoided, for I am a Sinful man O Lord.—

I order all my just debts and funeral charges to be paid by my Executrix out of my personal estate only, as soon as may be after my decease.

Item, I Give and bequeath unto my dear and loving wife Sarah Price during her life my mansion house in which I now dwell, together with the land and Appurces thereunto belonging, she keeping the same in good repair and paying the taxes that shall be assessed on said house, I also give unto my said wife all and every part of my

personal estate in whatsoever it may consist, This Bequest is upon this condition that she allows my nieces Sarah Creese and Margaret Creese to live with her in my said house & support them free from any Charge or expence to them or either of them for their maintenance in the same manner as they have heretofore lived with me, untill such time as they shall remain unmarried, my said wife also paying out of my personal Estate such Legacies and complying with such directions as are herein after mentioned, and whatever of my personal estate I hereby give to my said wife that shall remain in her hands at the time of her decease I desire my said wife would give the same to my said nieces Sarah and Margaret Creese, to be equally divided between them, and in case either of them should dye before my said wife, I desire she would give the whole to the survivor of them.—

Item, I Give unto my niece Ann Pelham wife of Mr Peter Pelham the sum of Fifty pounds sterling if she should be living at my decease, to be paid her out of my personal estate within one year after the decease of my said wife, I also discharge her from any demand I have upon her

upon account of her board, Cloaths or anything else I may have supplyed her with and direct my Executrix to give her a full release of the same when it shall be demanded. —

Item, I Give unto my niece and God daughter Sarah Creese the sum of Forty pounds sterling to be paid her out of my personal Estate after my said wife's decease, over and above what I otherways herein give to her.

Item, I Give unto my said nieces Sarah and Margaret Creese all the apparel, Linnen, and every other thing I have supplyed them with, and their whole board and maintenance from the time they first came to live with me, untill this time and from hence untill the time of my decease and order that no demand be ever made upon them for the same.

Item, I order that my pew in Kings Chappel so called be delivered up to the wardens of said Church they paying to my Executrix Sixteen pounds lawful money for the same. —

Item, I Give my pew in Trinity Church so called in Boston N° 60. to my said wife during

her natural life she paying the contribution of the same, and after her decease I give said pew unto my said nieces Margaret and Sarah Creese jointly, during their lives, and upon their decease I give the same to the heirs of their bodies lawfully begotten and on failure of such heirs, I give said pew to the wardens of said Church for the time being for the use and benefit of said Church, said wardens to allow such persons not exceeding six in number to sit therein as shall pay the contribution of said pew, and I would have the preference given to Gentlemen that are strangers, and I further order and direct my said nieces and their heirs that they pay the assessment laid on said Pew for so long time as they shall continue to sit in the same, and if they shall fail so doing I order that said pew shall go to said Church as is abovementioned.—

Item, I Give and bequeath to my said wife Sarah Price during her life, my mansion house in which I now dwell together with the land and Appurtenances thereunto belonging, and I hereby earnestly and solemnly request my said wife to keep the said house & premises in good repair during her life, and after her decease I

give unto my said nieces Sarah and Margaret Creese full liberty and right to live in or improve said house and premisses for the space of three years commencing on the death of my said wife without paying any rent or consideration therefor, saving that during said three years they shall keep the same premisses in very good repair, and pay such Taxes as shall be levied thereon. And at and upon the expiration of said three years I hereby give unto my said nieces Sarah and Margaret Creese full right and liberty to live in occupy or improve said dwelling house land and premisses for and during the term of their natural lives in an equal manner and the life of the survivor of them, taking to themselves the issues incomes and profits thereof, but holding the same upon this express condition that they or the survivor of them keep the said premisses in very good repair at their own expence which I earnestly and solemnly request them to do And also that they or the survivor of them shall on the first day of January next after said three years are expired pay to the Wardens of Kings Chappel so called in Boston the sum of Twenty pounds sterling money and so yearly and every year during such time as

they or either of them shall hold the same agreeable to this bequest, taking proper receipts therefor on payment of the same.—

ITEM, After the decease of my said wife Sarah Price and my nieces Sarah and Margaret Creese I give and bequeath to the Rector and Church Wardens of Kings Chappel so called in Boston aforesaid and to their Successors in said office in Trust forever my said brick house with the lands buildings Appurtenances and privileges thereunto belonging as the same is now inclosed and occupied by me, for the uses intents and purposes following vizt That there shall be paid yearly out of the rents and profits of my said house and land and premisses after the death of my said wife and nieces the sum of forty shillings sterling to the last mentioned Church forever by the Wardens of said Church for the time being which said annual payments of forty shillings sterling shall be kept entire as a fund for said Church and be placed out at Interest upon good security, and the Interest only appropriated to the use of said Church forever as the Wardens and Vestry of said Church for the time being shall from time to time Vote

and direct and in no other way or manner. And the Church Wardens of the same Church for the time being out of the rents of said house and appurces shall pay Sixteen pounds sterling annually for the support of a course of Sermons to be preached annually in said Kings Chappel in Lent in manner as is herein after directed and upon the subjects herein after named and that the Church Wardens of the same Church for the time being pay forty shillings sterling annually out of the rents and profits of my said house & Appurces for the use of the poor in manner also as is herein after mentioned. That the Rector and Church Wardens of said Church for the time being shall place the remainder of the money annually arising from the rents and profits of my said house and appurces at Interest upon good security to be called in as there may be occasion for repairing enlarging or rebuilding my said house or any part of the premisses, and also for keeping my Tomb which is under Trinity Church aforesaid in good and decent repair.—

Item, My Will is, and I hereby order and direct that the Sermons herein beforementioned

be eight annually and preached by the Rector of said Kings Chappel for the time being and his assistant, together with the ministers of Christ Church and the minister of Trinity Church in Boston aforesaid for the time being in Lent in said Kings Chappel beginning on the first ash wednesday after the aforesaid three years are expired that my nieces hold said house and ending on good friday, & I desire and direct that the first sermon be preached by the Rector of said Kings Chappel his assistant reading prayers, the second sermon by said assistant the minister of Christs Church reading prayers, the third sermon by said minister of Christs Church, the minister of Trinity Church reading prayers, the fourth sermon by said minister of Trinity Church, the Rector of Kings Chappel reading prayers, the fifth sermon by said Rector of Kings Chappel, his assistant reading prayers, the sixth sermon by said assistant the minister of Christs church reading prayers the seventh sermon by the said minister of Christs Church, the minister of Trinity Church reading prayers, the eighth sermon by the minister of Trinity Church the Rector of Kings Chappel reading prayers, which last sermon will end on good friday, the first sermon of

the second year I would have the assistant of Kings Chappel, to preach on the same subject the Rector did the preceeding year and the other ministers in such a manner as that they may each of them preach on the eight different subjects within four years, this I would have remain unalterable and perpetual and I hereby direct that the said eight annual sermons be preached on the following subjects Viz.t

1.st Sermon on Ash Wednesday (the service to begin about three o'Clock in the afternoon) upon the duty, usefulness, and propriety of fasting & abstinence or upon Repentance, or Faith, or Hope, or Charity, or Christian Morality.

The 2.nd Sermon on the second Wednesday in lent at eleven o'Clock before noon the sermon to be against Atheism or Infidelity, or in defence of the Divinity or miracles of our blessed Savior

The 3.rd Sermon on the third Wednesday in lent at eleven o'Clock in the forenoon the subject, the Catholick Church, or the Excellency of the Christian Religion.—

The 4th Sermon on the fourth Wednesday in lent at eleven o'Clock in the forenoon the sermon to be a Vindication of the Church of England as to Government Doctrine or Discipline, or a discourse against Heresy or Schism, Enthusiasm or Hypocrisy or the Duty of Obedience to Kings and lawful authority from all persons professing Christianity..—

The 5th Sermon on the fifth Wednesday in Lent at Eleven o'Clock in the forenoon against Error and superstition, particularly those of the Church of Rome.—

The 6th Sermon on the sixth Wednesday in Lent at eleven o'Clock in the forenoon, on Detraction or Restitution, or on Contentment & Resignation or on preparation for death.—

The 7th Sermon on the seventh Wednesday in Lent at eleven oclock in the forenoon on Baptism or Confession or absolution or on the Duty of publick Worship..—

The 8th Sermon on Good friday at three O'Clock in the afternoon on the passion and Death of

Christ, or of the Nature Necessity & advantages of the Holy Communion.—

And towards the support and encouragement of the aforesaid Ministers to undertake the Duty of preaching as aforementioned, It is my will and I hereby Order and direct the Wardens for the time being of said Kings Chappel Church to pay to the preacher appointed for any particular day if he performs said Duty of preaching as aforesaid as soon as sermon is ended, the sum of forty shillings sterling, and after the same rate and in like manner for each of the said eight sermons, amounting to sixteen pounds annually as is before mentioned. But if any of the ministers herein before appointed to preach as aforesaid shall refuse to take his or their turn, or be disabled thro' sickness then the Rector of said Kings Chappel shall discharge the duty of any such minister so refusing or prevented by sickness or with the advice of the wardens for the time being of said Chappel appoint some other minister of the Church of England to perform it, and in all cases whoever shall discharge said duty of preaching as aforesaid shall be entitled to the Reward and the Rector and Wardens for

the time being of said Chappel shall upon every Tuesday in Easter Week give notice in writing to such minister who shall be appointed to preach the said Lent sermons in that year upon what day, in what Church and upon what subject each minister is to discourse.—

It is my desire that on every of the eight days upon which a Sermon shall be so preached as aforesaid, there shall be a Contribution after sermon for the poor of each of the three churches herein beforementioned, collected at the Church doors or otherwise And I hereby order and direct the Church Wardens for the time being of Kings Chappel aforesaid at every such contribution to pay five shillings sterling out of the rents or income of my said house towards the said Contribution, in all forty shillings sterling annually, and on every good friday after sermon in the afternoon the Rector or Minister with the Wardens of said Kings Chappel for the time being shall divide the said forty shillings, and what else shall be collected for the poor aforesaid upon the several days before mentioned, one third part to themselves for the use of the poor of said Chappel, one third part to the minis-

ter and wardens for the time being of Christs Church for the use of the poor of the same Church, and the remaining third to the minister and Wardens for the time being of Trinity Church for the use of the poor of said Church, and I direct that said wardens of each church then attend to receive the same..—

I further hereby appoint and direct that these several clauses of my will be entered upon the Church books of Kings Chappel aforesaid and of Christs Church and of Trinity Church, and after my decease be read at every annual meeting of the minister Wardens and proprietors of said Kings Chappel on Easter monday before they proceed to the choice of new wardens and that the said minister and wardens for the time being shall then produce to the Vestry and proprietors who shall be there present, a fair account of the distribution of the said sixteen pounds, and the said forty shillings agreeable to my will as aforesaid, having no other View in all this, but The Glory of Almighty God.

I Recommend to the Rector of said Kings Chappel and Wardens for the time being that

they make the best improvement of my said house & appur^s they can when it shall come into their hands, by letting the same by written lease always being careful that the Lessee is bound by Covenant to pay the rent half yearly, to pay all taxes of said house and to keep and leave the said house & Appurces in good repair. And if at any time there shall be a greater sum arising from the rents & profits of my said house and Appurces than shall be sufficient to discharge the said Twenty pounds annually herein before given, and to keep said House and Appurces in repair, and if need be to rebuild the same, and also to keep my Tomb in repair as aforesaid, then and in that case, I order such surplusage to be put out at Interest by the minister and wardens for the time being of said Kings Chappel.—

I Will and hereby direct that all the buisness which relates to my Estate herein given in Trust to the use of said Kings Chappel shall be done by a Vote of the Vestry of said Church, & no vote shall be of any force, unless there be present the Minister if in health & in Town, the Wardens and at least one half of the Gentlemen of the

Vestry, such meetings to be called by the Wardens for the time being of said Chappel, giving due notice thereof in writing or by printed Summons. I hope and request that all proprietors of pews in said Chappel, will give their attendance on all Easter Mondays to choose Wardens, and such Vestry men as will give their attendance at all Vestry meetings when summoned thereto, and such as will not think it an hard task to give their best advice & a small part of their time to serve said Church and Congregation..—

In case the Minister, Wardens, Vestry men, & proprietors of pews for the time being of said Kings Chappel will not accept of this my Donation which I intend for the benefit of said Church then I hereby Give and bequeath All herein before given to and for the benefit of said Kings Chappel to the minister and Church Wardens of Trinity Church aforesaid, in trust in the same manner and under the same proviso's limitations and conditions that it is herein before given to the minister and Church Wardens of said Kings Chappel. But if the Minister and Church wardens of said Kings Chappel will accept of

this my donation they shall under their hands Certify to the Minister and Wardens of Trinity Church aforesaid for the time being such their acceptance in the manner following Viz^t: "We do accept the Donations of William Price agreeable to his last Will and Testament, and will as far as possible strictly fulfill the said Will in every part thereof." And I hereby solemnly and earnestly request the Ministers and Wardens of said Kings Chappel at all times hereafter strictly to comply with and fulfill this my last Will and Testament in all parts thereof which relate to said Kings Chappel and by no means either neglect so doing or presume to Evade it. And I hereby appoint all the Gentlemen of the Vestry of said Church, for the time being, my Trustees forever, to inspect and if need be to call the Minister and Wardens for the time being of said Kings Chappel to account for all or any of the income of my said Estate, and to see the same is punctually employed for the uses and purposes herein before mentioned and in no other manner. And I desire and order that there shall be a Vestry meeting on every first Wednesday in July and on every first Wednesday in January forever in said Kings Chappel at eleven

o'Clock after prayers, and oftner if needful for that purpose.—

And lastly, I the said William Price do hereby revoke & make Void all former Wills and Testaments heretofore made by me, And I hereby appoint and Constitute my said Wife Sarah Price Executrix of this my last Will and Testament during her life, and at and upon her decease, I do appoint and Constitute my said nieces Sarah Creese and Margaret Creese Executrixes of this my Will, And all the Rest, & Residue of my Estate, Real and personal not herein particularly devised I give to my said dear and loving wife Sarah Price. In witness whereof I the said William Price have to this my last Will and Testament set my hand and seal the thirtieth day of November in the year of our Lord Christ One Thousand Seven hundred and seventy.

WILLIAM PRICE [Seal.]

Signed sealed, published & declared by the said William Price to be his last Will & Testament, in presence of us.

Ezekl. Goldthwait.
W. Sherburn.
Henry Knox.

I William Price aforenamed being of sound disposing mind and memory, for good considerations and reasons me thereunto moving do think proper to make the following alterations in my aforewritten Will, that is to say I do hereby disannul and make void the bequest of fifty pounds sterling made to my niece Ann Pelham and also the bequest of forty pounds sterling to my niece Ann Creese, and also at & upon the decease of my wife Sarah Price I give and bequeath unto my nieces Sarah and Margaret Creese in my said Will named, my brick dwelling house land and premisses wherein I now live, To hold the same for their own use and benefit in equal parts for and during the term of their natural lives and the life of the survivor of them, they paying the taxes and keeping the same in good repair as is in my said Will mentioned, and my mind and will is that they shall not pay any thing more during their lives or the life of the survivor of them, any thing in my said Will to the contrary notwithstanding, and at and upon the decease of my said neices Sarah and Margaret Creese I then give and bequeath the said brick dwelling house land and premisses to and for the several uses intents and purposes in my said

Will particularly mentioned and further whatsoever of my personal estate that I have given to my said wife that shall remain at her decease, I give and bequeath unto my said neices Sarah and Margaret Creese equally, and all other parts of my said Will I do hereby ratify and Confirm. And this writing I declare to be as a codicil to, and part of my said Will any thing therein to the contrary. IN WITNESS whereof I hereunto set my hand and seal this twentieth day of April Anno Domini One thousand seven hundred and seventy one, in the eleventh year of his Majestys Reign.

WILLIAM PRICE [Seal.]

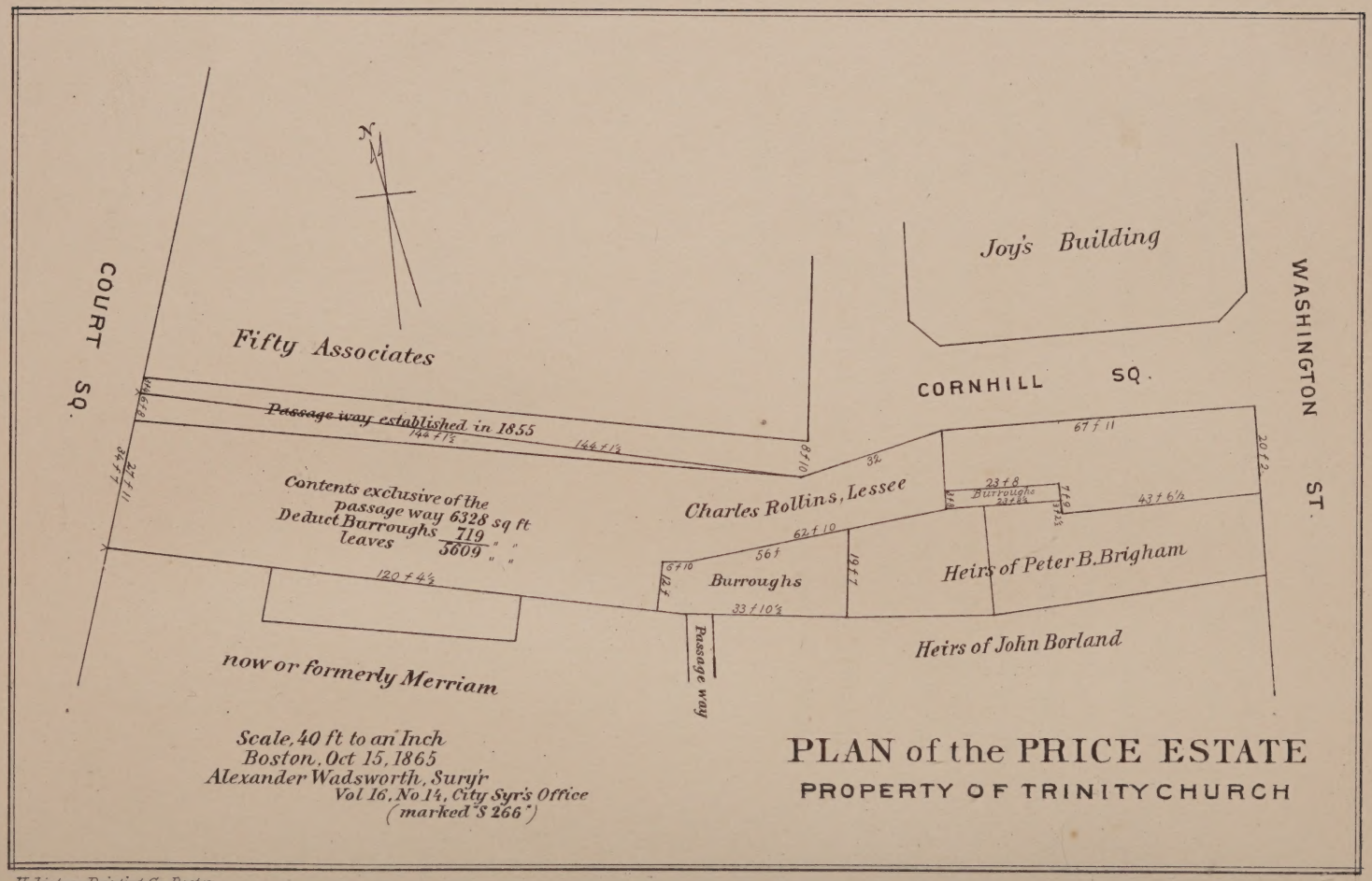
Signed sealed published & declared by the said William Price as and for a coidicil to his last Will & Testament, in presence of us.

EZEKL GOLDTHWAIT.
W SHERBURN.
HENRY KNOX.

COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS. Suffolk, *ss.* Probate Office, March 31, 1862. I hereby certify that the above is a true and exact

copy, in paragraphs, words, figures, letters, and punctuation, of the will and codicil of William Price, of Boston, merchant, proved, approved, and allowed, on the twenty-fourth day of May in the year of our Lord one thousand seven hundred and seventy-one, before the Honorable Foster Hutchinson, Esquire, Judge of the Probate of Wills, and for granting Letters of Administration on the estates of persons deceased, having goods, chattels, rights, or credits, in the County of Suffolk and Province of the Massachusetts Bay; and now remaining on file and of record in this office.

Wm. C. Brown,
Register of Probate Court.



Heliotype Printing Co. Boston.

SKETCH OF TITLE

TO

THE PRICE ESTATE.

PREPARED BY

GRENVILLE H. NORCROSS AND HENRY A. SMITH.

SKETCH OF TITLE.

IN the Book of Possessions, which must be the foundations of all titles to real estate within the old town limits of Boston, this parcel of land appears as the possession of Valentine Hill and is described as follows: "One house and garden bounded with the streets on the east: the meeting house and Richard Truesdale on the north: Capt. Robert Sedgwick on the south: and the prison garden west." See Second Report of Record Commissioners, 1877, page 192. Also, see this lot laid down and marked "Valentine Hill" on Plan "Old Boston compiled from the Book of Possessions," by Geo. Lamb.

Valentine Hill appears to have sold this land to William Davies, May 20, 1645, by deed re-

corded with Suffolk Deeds, Lib. 1, Fol. 60, which deed reads as follows:

"Valentine Hill of Boston granted to William Davies a house and garden, bounded with the ordinary now in the possession of James Penn on the south: the prison garden on the west; Philemon Permort on the north and also the meeting house: and the High Street on the east: and this was by an absolute deed of sale dated the 20th (3) 1645.

Acknowledged before Mr. Hibbins, 20th (3) 1645. A hand and seal."

William Davis or Davies, or Capt. William Davis died on or about May, 1676, seized of this estate, and his will, dated May 17, 1676, was proved May 26, 1676, and is recorded with the Probate Records for Suffolk County, Lib. 6, Fol. 168.

His son, Benjamin Davis mortgages the same, May 26, 1687, by Lib. 16, Fol. 23, and by Lib. 15, Fol. 28, which mortgages are subsequently discharged, and dies seized of it in 1705.

David Jeffries, adm^r of Benj. Davis's estate, sells to Thomas Creese of Boston, Apothecary, Sept. 5, 1711, by Lib. 26, Fol. 169.

Thomas Creese and Rookesby his wife, by deed dated Mar. 1, 1712, recorded in Lib. 26, Fol. 170, conveys to David Jeffries of Boston, "a certain piece of his land, being part of the land which he lately purchased of the said David Jeffries, administrator of the estate of Maj. Benjamin Davis, late of Boston, Apothecary, deceased, and whereof the said Benjamin Davis died seized in his own demesne, lying situate in Boston aforesaid on the westerly side of Cornhill Street, measuring in breadth 11 feet from the southerly side of the said Jeffries' land adjoining, fronting on the east to the old meeting house and extending in length westerly from the south-easterly corner of the said Jeffries' land to the prison land 150 feet on the southerly side, and from the lane by the old meeting house, along by the northerly side of the said Creese his garden 154 feet: and from thence in the rear across over to the said Jeffries' land adjoining to the prison land, measuring in breadth 12 feet."

Note. The strip of land conveyed in the above deed is probably part of the passageway now called Cornhill Court.

Thomas Creese, July 18, 1718, by deed recorded in Lib. 33, Fol. 118, conveys to "John

Marion, Samuel Marshall and Jonathan Williams, Deacons of the First Church in Boston, in trust as Deacons for the use of the Church, a certain piece of land situate in Cornhill Street in Boston aforesaid about 8½ feet more or less in breadth, bounding northerly on a common passageway already belonging to the said Church, running from the said street as far westward as my brick house in the present possession of Henry Guionnear, merchant: westerly on Cornhill Street aforesaid: southerly on other land of one the said Creese: easterly on the aforesaid brick house. So that the land hereby granted being added to the aforesaid passageway will make the same the full breadth of 18 feet upon a straight line throughout the whole length thereof."

And in Lib. 33, Fol. 125, dated July 19, 1718, the following deed appears: "John Marion, Samuel Marshall, Jonathan Williams, Deacons for the time being of the First Ancient Church or Congregation in Boston, within the County of Suffolk, in the Province of the Massachusetts Bay in New England, send greeting: Whereas, Thomas Creese of Boston aforesaid, Apothecary, pursuant to the award of Msrs. Thomas Fitch,

Elisha Bennett, Ezekiel Lewis, and Gyles Dyer, hath laid about 8 feet of his land on the south side of the brick meeting house in Boston aforesaid to a common passageway thereto belonging, whereby the said passageway is and contains in breadth 18 feet upon a straight line throughout the whole length thereof as in and by the award of the said Messrs. Fitch, Bennett, Lewis and Dyer, bearing date the 17th day of July current, relation thereto being had may more fully appear. Now these presents witness that the said John Marrion, Samuel Marshall and Jonathan Williams in their said capacity pursuant to the award of the said Fitch, Bennett, Lewis and Dyer and the vote of the said Church, bearing date Sept. 16, 1717, have given, granted, bargained, sold, conveyed, confirmed, and by these presents do fully and absolutely give, grant, bargain, sell, convey aud confirm unto the said Thomas Creese, his heirs and assigns forever, the full liberty and privilege of the said passageway of 18 feet in width throughout the whole length, to go, pass and repass to, from and throughout the same, with the use of the well and pump standing therein or liberty to remove it, unless the said Creese be allowed for the same, provided

always that the said passageway be not in any manner interrupted or incumbered in any part thereof by the said Thomas Creese, his heirs, executors, administrators or assigns."

Thomas Creese dies in 1731, and his son Thomas is appointed administrator of his estate.

William Creese, son and heir at law of said Thomas, deceased in 1732, by deed in Lib. 46, Fol. 265, conveys all his interest, estate and title in his father's estate to his brother Thomas Creese of Boston, the oldest son.

And in 1737, by deed in Lib. 55, Fol. 210, Thomas Aston and Rooksby his wife, (Rooksby probably being the daughter of Thomas Creese, deceased,) convey this land with adjoining land to Thomas Creese, and describe it as follows: "all that brick messuage or tenement and land situated, standing and being in Cornhill Street in Boston aforesaid, butted and bounded as followeth, viz: easterly in the front on the said street, there measuring in a south and north line 18 feet: then turning and running on an east and west line and bounded northerly on Church Square, so called, there measuring 67 feet 8½ inches: then running southwesterly on said square, there measuring 25 feet 1½ inch: then

running westerly again on a straight line by land of Mr. Benjamin Faneuil, there measuring 95 feet 4 inches: then bounded westerly in the rear and running on a north and south line by the land of William Price, there measuring 28 feet: then turning and running easterly on said Price's land, there measuring 63 feet 6 inches: then bounded westerly on sd Price's land, there measuring 2 feet 9 inches: then running easterly on said Price's land 41 feet: then running east and by north on said Price's land, there measuring 25 feet 8 inches: and then running easterly again on the dwelling house and land of the said Price, there measuring 67 feet 8½ inches, where it comes to the bounds first mentioned."

Thomas Creese of Newport, Colony of Rhode Island, and Anne his wife, convey the above land, as described in the preceding deed, to William Price of Boston, by deed dated Feb. 12, 1736, and recorded with Suffolk Deeds, Lib. 54, Fol. 117, for the sum of £2050.

William Price dies in 1771, Will dated Apr. 20, 1770, and allowed May 24, 1771. His Will is printed in full on previous pages of this volume.

In Lib. 680, Fol. 225, is an Indenture between Trinity Church and King's Chapel, dated Nov. 21, 1828, and not recorded until May 17, 1855.

The Rector and Church Wardens of Trinity Church lease the same premises, Mar. 19, 1836, recorded Lib. 403, Fol. 286, to Thomas A. Davis of Boston, for the term of twenty-five years from July 1, 1836.

In Lib. 693, Fol. 138, is an Indenture between the Wardens and Vestry of Trinity Church and the Fifty Associates, establishing the passageway between their respective estates from Court Square to Cornhill Court, and Plan by Alex. Wadsworth, dated Dec. 30, 1854.

In Lib. 751, Fol. 179, Dec. 25, 1858, Trinity Church conveys to the City of Boston 525 feet on the westerly end of this estate, to widen Court Square, and shown on Fuller's Plan dated Nov. 3, 1838.

In Lib. 773, Fol. 26, dated Jan. 5, 1860, is an Indenture between said Church and the Fifty Associates, establishing the passageway between

the respective estates, from Court Square to Cornhill Court, and Plan by Alex. Wadsworth, dated Jan. 19, 1860.

In Lib. 874, Fol. 145, the Rector and Wardens of Trinity Church lease this estate to Charles Rollins of Boston, builder, for the term of 30 yrs. from July 1, 1866.

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